

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC KVP Engineer Units in Fuenfeichen

616797

25X1

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT

12 February 1954

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DATE PREPARED

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. On 23 October 1953, a registration group from Berlin visited the Fuenfeichen KVP installation which quartered the units commanded by Muehle (fmu) and Fricke (fmu). The group consisted of about 25 men including 20 civilians and arrived by sedans

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[redacted] After a stay of about half a day, the commission left for an unknown destination.

2. On 12 November 1953 [redacted] Captain Kiesslich (fmu) had been reassigned to Dresden as an instruction officer. 25X1

3. At that time, activities in the installation included instruction, sports, maintenance of motor vehicles, fatigue duty, and painting of pontoons. Soldiers quartered in the installation said that the summer training program had been terminated in late October 1953. The winter training program was allegedly scheduled to commence on 1 December 1953. The reconditioning of the billets of the instruction company which belonged to the Fricke unit was postponed as the instruction company was scheduled soon to be disbanded and to be divided up to the other four companies of the Fricke unit.

4. On 6 December 1953, about 100 recruits wearing various service colors received basic training in the installation. 2

5. On 18 December 1953, [redacted] the installation quartered two engineer battalions each including one headquarters company and three training companies. The installation also quartered an engineer instruction company. [redacted] 25X1
each company had about 60 men and [redacted] about 600 men were quartered in the installation. 25X1

6. Officers identified at the same time included Captain Fricke (fmu), battalion commander and senior officer; Captain Muehle (fmu), battalion commander; Captain Wuelfert (fmu), who made numerous duty trips; Senior Lieutenant Petzold (fmu), chief of staff; Senior Lieutenant Schulz (fmu), supply officer and successor to Senior Lieutenant Giesler (fmu), who was transferred to Muehlhausen; Senior Officer Winkler (fmu), political officer at the installation; Lieutenant Malligan (fmu), presumably a company officer; Lieutenant Schenkmann (fmu), and Junior Lieutenant Willi Schulz, head of the dispensary. 1

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7. On 18 December 1953, service activities in the installation included instruction with all units prior to 9 a.m.; and after 9 a.m., (servicing) of motor vehicles and pontoons, making of timber and general fatigue duty for cadre personnel, basic training without weapons, saluting exercises, individual drill and drill at squad-level for recruits. The recruits were members of very young classes, who had arrived at the installation in small groups in late November 1953. ²

8. In mid-December 1953, vehicles and engineer equipment counted in the installation included 70 to 80 trucks, 3 sedans, 1 crane truck, 1 repair-shop truck and 30 to 35 pontoons. The motor vehicles were in motor-vehicle storage sheds and under shed-roofs in the northern section of the installation. The pontoons were stored beside the motor-vehicle storage sheds.

9. [REDACTED] Captain Fricke (fmu), the previous battalion commander, had been relieved in mid-December, allegedly because of the death of a sentry. Captain Fritzler (fmu), who lived in the former Fuenfeichen estate, was appointed successor to Captain Fricke. [REDACTED] 200 men of the Fritzler unit, which numbered about 250 men, were granted leave over Christmas. ¹ 25X1

10. [REDACTED] Kieslich (fmu), the previous commander, was reassigned to an unknown destination and was succeeded by Captain Fricke (fmu). ¹ 25X1

11. From 11 November 1953 to 1 January 1954, two engineer units, allegedly two engineer battalions, were still stationed at Fuenfeichen. Prior to early December 1953, the total personnel serving with the two units was estimated at 500 soldiers including numerous replacements apparently assigned to the units at that time. On 6 December 1953, 200 men, who seemed to be newcomers, marched through the city area. From 25 December 1953 to 1 January 1954, numerous soldiers of the unit were on leave. ²

12. Grabenthin (fmu) and Krause (fmu), two officers mentioned in previous reports were no longer identified. Senior Lieutenant Petzold (fmu), was allegedly re-appointed and served as a company commander. ¹

13. [REDACTED] 25X1

14. [REDACTED] couriers travelled between Fuenfeichen and Storkow which latter had been stationed in Fuenfeichen and had first moved to Treuenbrietzen. Koeferl (fmu), chief of this unit, was promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel. ¹

1. [REDACTED] Comment. It is believed that Captain Kieslich, (fmu), was reassigned to the Dresden mechanised alert force or the Dresden KVP Military Academy. Other information also indicated that leaders of the engineer units stationed at Fuenfeichen were repeatedly superseded. 25X1

2. [REDACTED] Comment. It is believed that the recruits and the other replacements were assigned to the engineer battalion of TV Nord. Previous reports [REDACTED] indicated that the engineer battalion of the Prenzlau Division numbered 440 men.

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